

**NIBIB SUBMISSION**  
**for the**  
**NIH Comprehensive Strategic Plan and Budget**  
**To Reduce and Ultimately Eliminate Health Disparities**

**NIBIB MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering is to improve health by promoting fundamental discoveries, design and development, and translation and assessment of technological capabilities in biomedical imaging and bioengineering, enabled by relevant areas of information science, physics, chemistry, mathematics, materials science, and computer sciences. The Institute plans, conducts, fosters, and supports an integrated and coordinated program of research and research training that can be applied to a broad spectrum of biological processes, disorders and diseases and across organ systems. The Institute coordinates with the biomedical imaging and bioengineering programs of other agencies and NIH Institutes to support imaging and engineering research with potential medical applications and facilitates the transfer of such technologies to medical applications.

In support of its mission the Institute will:

- Support research and research training through existing NIH funding mechanisms, and take the lead in exploring novel approaches for funding technology development and interdisciplinary research.
- Form partnerships with NIH Institutes and Centers to translate fundamental discoveries into research and applications for specific diseases, disorders, or biological processes.
- Coordinate with other government agencies to translate fundamental or crosscutting discoveries and developments in imaging and engineering, and related areas of information science and technology assessment, into biomedical applications.
- Encourage and support the development of relevant standards and guidelines that will enable widespread adaptability for biomedical imaging, bioengineering, and related information science and technology and computation, by taking a leadership and coordinating role for the NIH.

**OVERVIEW OF THE IC STRATEGY FOR ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES**

NIBIB is less than one year old. It has begun the process of building the new Institute and identifying key principles to guide its growth. The Institute is not focused on specific health conditions associated with life-span, disease, or anatomical site. It is, however, uniquely positioned to identify challenges in medical research that can benefit from bioengineering and

bioimaging approaches, facilitate cooperation, and promote transdisciplinary research training. NIBIB seeks to provide leadership in developing cross-cutting research and training in biomedical imaging and bioengineering, fostered by strong partnerships and collaborations, with the ultimate goal of improving the health and well-being of all Americans.

NIBIB will employ partnerships and collaborations in support of the overall NIH effort to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, health disparities. It will leverage existing investments by other NIH Institutes and Centers, other Federal agencies, professional associations, academic institutions, and non-profit organizations to build both human capital and research infrastructure.

The Institute plans to help build human capital by supporting the training of aspiring minority students and new minority investigators, especially in transdisciplinary research training programs. Likewise, NIBIB will identify established minority investigators that would benefit from supplemental funding to their bioimaging or bioengineering research.

In parallel, NIBIB plans to create unique opportunities for specialized instrumentation needs that will emerge in the bioimaging and bioengineering research community. Such opportunities may include individual awards to minority investigators/institutions, partnership programs between minority and majority institutions, and consortia of minority institutions.

With the arrival of a permanent, full-time Director, NIBIB will undertake a comprehensive strategic planning process to address the myriad of scientific opportunities and challenges, and subsequently provide a formal health disparities plan articulating specific objectives.

NIBIB Health Disparities Budget  
(Dollars in Millions)

Institute / Center	FY 2002			FY 2003		
	Research	Infrastructure	Outreach	Research	Infrastructure	Outreach
NIBIB	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00